

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-14 are pending in the application. The Examiner's reconsideration of the objection and rejections in view of the amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 6-14 are allowed and that claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 and 3-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Christiansen, U.S. Patent No. 5,961,614, in view of applicant's admitted prior art. The Examiner stated essentially that Christiansen and admitted prior art teach or suggest all the limitations recited in claims 1 and 3-5.

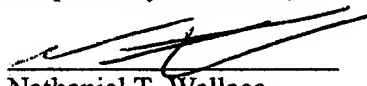
Claim 1 claims, *inter alia*, "wherein the flag bit comprises an ownership bit for indicating that the buffer descriptor is in a CPU mode if each of the buffer descriptors is being organized or an error occurred in packet data received via the communication channels, and for indicating that the buffer descriptor is in a DMA mode, in which the DMA controller is accessible, if the organization of each of the buffer descriptors is completed, and a skip bit for indicating whether the CPU is organizing the buffer descriptor or whether or not an error occurred in packet data received via the communication channels."

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of claim 2. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 3-5 depend from claim 1. Claims 3-5 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 1. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the forgoing reasons, the application, including claims 1 and 3-14, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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